



3754

**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No: BSC-165

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS: Haarala et al. CONFIRMATION NO.: 3578  
SERIAL NO.: 09/838,618 GROUP NO.: 3754  
FILING DATE: April 19, 2001 EXAMINER: P. Buechner  
TITLE: Catheter Slit Valves

**CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and any document(s) referred to as enclosed herein, is/are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2002.

  
Diane Racicot

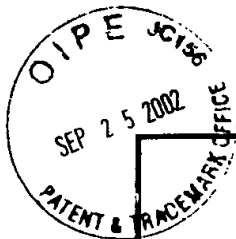
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith are:

1. Transmittal Form (1 pg.);
2. Response to Species Election Requirement (2 pgs.);
3. and return receipt postcard

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# TRANSMITTAL FORM

Application Serial Number	09/838,618
Filing Date	April 19, 2001
First Named Inventor	Haarala
Group Art Unit	3754
Examiner Name	P. Buechner
Attorney Docket No.	BSC-165

## ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form<br><input type="checkbox"/> Check Attached<br><input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Fee Transmittal Form   | <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Notice to File Missing Parts of Application (PTO-1553)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Formal Drawing(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney (Revocation of Prior Powers)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Executed Declaration for Utility or Design Patent Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement<br><input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund<br><input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Status Inquiry<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certificate of First Class Mailing under 37 C.F.R. 1.8<br><input type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response to Species Election Requirement<br><input type="checkbox"/> After Final<br><input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Letter to Official Draftsperson including Drawings [Total Sheets ____]<br><input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement<br><input type="checkbox"/> Form PTO-1449<br><input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations<br><input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application |   |  |

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Respectfully submitted,  
  
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*S. Rothell*  
10-1-02

PATENT  
Atty. Docket No. BSC-165

#5/  
*Election*

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT: Haarala *et al.* CONFIRMATION NO.: 3578  
SERIAL NUMBER: 09/838,618 GROUP NUMBER: 3754  
FILING DATE: April 19, 2001 EXAMINER: P. Buechner  
TITLE: Catheter Slit Valves

**RESPONSE TO SPECIES ELECTION REQUIREMENT**

This paper is responsive to the Office Action, Paper No. 4, mailed from the Patent Office on August 20, 2002. The Office Action indicates that there are thirty-two patentably distinct species depicted in the figures and that no claim appears to be generic. A summary of the species follows:

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. FIGS. 3A, 3B, 4A; | 17. FIGS. 19A-19B;   |
| 2. FIGS. 5A-5B;      | 18. FIGS. 20A-20B;   |
| 3. FIGS. 6A-6B;      | 19. FIGS. 21A-21B;   |
| 4. FIGS. 7A-7B;      | 20. FIGS. 22-24, 28; |
| 5. FIGS. 8A-8B;      | 21. FIGS. 25-27;     |
| 6. FIGS. 8C;         | 22. FIGS. 29A;       |
| 7. FIGS. 9A-9B;      | 23. FIGS. 29B;       |
| 8. FIGS. 10A-10B;    | 24. FIGS. 29C;       |
| 9. FIGS. 11;         | 25. FIGS. 29D;       |
| 10. FIGS. 12;        | 26. FIGS. 30A-30B;   |
| 11. FIGS. 13;        | 27. FIGS. 31A-31B;   |
| 12. FIGS. 14;        | 28. FIGS. 32A-32B;   |
| 13. FIGS. 15A-15C;   | 29. FIGS. 33A-33B;   |
| 14. FIGS. 16A-16B;   | 30. FIGS. 34A-34B;   |
| 15. FIGS. 17A-17B;   | 31. FIGS. 35A-35C;   |
| 16. FIGS. 18A-18B;   | 32. FIGS. 36A-36D.   |

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Applicants hereby elect species 26, as represented by FIGS. 30A-30B. Applicants submit that at least claims 1-5, 8-11, 14-16, 19, and 43-46 are readable on FIGS. 30A-30B.

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that at least independent claim 1 is generic. Claim 1 is directed to a catheter slit valve, which is depicted generally in FIGS. 3A-3B, 4A, 5A-5B, 6A-6B, 7A-7B, 8A-8C, 9A-9B, 10A-10B, 11-14, 15A-15C, 16A-16B, 17A-17B, 18A-18B, 19A-19B, 20A-20B, 21A-21B, 22-28, 29A-29D, 30A-30B, 31A-318, 32A-32B, 33A-33B, 34A-34B, and 36A-36D. Applicants submit that FIGS. 35A-35C depict examples of catheter and cap assemblies that could be used with any of the catheter slit valves depicted in the aforementioned figures.

#### CONCLUSION

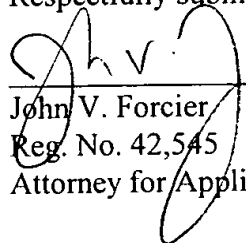
Applicants request entry of this response and allowance of claims 1-60 in due course.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any outstanding issues.

Date: September 20, 2002

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